

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COPENH 00887 271017Z

46

ACTION EB-07

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: ENRG DA

SUBJECT: ENERGY IEA PRESS COMMENTS BY FOREIGN
ECONOMICS MINISTER IVAR NORGAARD ON ENERGY
COOPERATION

1. DANISH FOREIGN ECONOMICS MINISTER IVAR NORGAARD
AURTHORED ARTICLE IN DANISH EWSPWPER POLITIKEN
MARCH 22 COMMENTING ON DENMARK'S INTERNATIONAL
COPERATION IN THE ENERGY FIELD.

2. UNDER THE HEADLINE: MEASURES AGAINST THE
OIL CRISIS: SOLIDARITY" HE DESCRIBED DENMARKS
COOPERATIN IN THE IEA. PUTTING HEAVY EMPHASIS
ON THE NEED FOR DENMARK TO INVOLVE ITSELF ACTIVELY.
"DENMARK IS ALMOST 100 PERCENT DEPENDENT ON
IMPORTED OIL, AND WE STAND NO CHANCE OF SURVIVING
A NEW ENERGY CRISIS WITHOUT INTERNATION COOPERATION."
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PAGE 02 COPENH 00887 271017Z

HE STRESSES THE NEED FOR CLOSE COOPERATION AMONG

THE EC THE US AND JAPAN AND DESCRIBED THE AGREEMENT ON THE IEP AS AN IMPORTANT STEP TOWARDS MAKING DENMARK SECURE IN CASE OF THE NEW ENERGY CRISIS. HE POINTS OUT THAT THE COST OF OIL IS NOT LIKELY TO BE REDUCED IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE AND THAT CONSIDERABLE FUNDS MUST BE INVESTED IN SEARCH OF ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES. THIS CONSIDERABLE INVESTMENT IN TURN MUST BE SECURED AGAINST THE EFFECTS OF AN SUDDEN OR TEMPORARY DROP OF THE OIL PRICE. NORGAARD ALSO EMPHASIZED THAT DENMARK IS PREPARED TO PARTICPATE IN AN IEA GUARANTEE OF THESE INVESTEMENTS PROVIDED THAT THE IEA PRODUCERS ARE PREAPRED TO SHARE WITH IEA NON PRODUCERS AT FAIR PRICES.

3. IN THE SUBJ OF THE PREPARATORY PARIS PRODUCER/CONSUMER MEETING NORGAARD EXPRESSES THE HOPE THAT THE CONSUMER NATIONS WILL SUCCEED IN ESTABLISHING THEIER OWN SOLIDARITY AND AGREEMENT ON THE QUESTIONS TO BE NEGOTIATED IN THE DIALOGUE WITH THE PRODUCING NATIONS.

4. ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS NORGAARD HAS TAKEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO ADVOCATE HIS POSITIVE VIEWS ON THE IEA. RECENTLY AN ENTERPRISING REPORTER OF DENMAKRS CONSERVATIVE BERLINGSKE TIDENDE PUBLICIZED AN OFFER REPORTEDLY ORIGINATING FROM NORWEGIAN MINISTERS TO SUPPLY DENMARK WITH OIL IN CASE OF A NEW ENERGY CRISIS. ACCORDING TO THE REPORTER NORWEGIAN CONDITIONS FOR SUCH AGREEMENT WOULD INCLUDE DENMARKS GIVING UP ITS PRESENT OIL PURCHASING POLICY AND ENTERING INTO LONG TERM SUPPLY AGREEMENT WITH NORWAY. SUCH AGREEMENT WOULD REPORTEDLY MEAN A CONSIDERABLE INCREASE OF OIL PRICES IN DENMARK. FLOWING SOME PRESS SPECULATION NORGAARD KILLED THE DEBATE, STATING THE DENMARK IS NOT IN FAVOR OF BILATERAL AGREEMENTS BUT PARTICIPATES ACTIVELY IN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION. "APPARENTLY" HE SAID "NORWAY IS OVERLOOKING THE UNCONDITIONAL DANISH PARTICIPATION IN THE UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 COPENH 00887 271017Z

IEP AND IT IS TO BE REGRETTEED THAT NORWAY GIVES CAUSE TO DOUBT DENMARK'S INTENTIONS IN THIS PROGRAM.
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